

**CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE ADVISORY COMMISSION  
THREE HUNDRED AND SECOND MEETING**

HELD AT CAPE COD NATIONAL SEASHORE, Marconi Station  
Area, Park Headquarters, South Wellfleet, Massachusetts, on  
Monday, March 14, 2016, commencing at 1:11 p.m.

SITTING:

Richard Delaney, Chairman  
Larry Spaulding  
Lilli Green  
Joseph Craig  
Sheila Lyons  
Judith Stephenson  
Mary-Jo Avellar  
Maureen Burgess

Nat Goddard, alternate  
Bob Summersgill, alternate  
Kathleen Bacon, alternate

Also present:

George Price, Superintendent  
Kathy Tevyaw, Deputy Superintendent  
Robert Cook, Acting Chief of Natural Resources and Science  
Mary Hake, Natural Resource Specialist  
Courtney Butler, Centennial Volunteer Ambassador

Audience members

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**P R O C E E D I N G S**

MR. DELANEY: Take two. At this time we all have to speak loudly and clearly and articulate well because the machine might not be working as it is supposed to.

Okay, so with that said, I am pleased to call together or call to order the 302nd meeting of the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

MR. DELANEY: As always, you have an agenda sent out in advance and minutes, and unless there are any suggested changes, let's adopt the agenda.

MS. AVELLAR: So moved.

MS. GREEN: No.

MR. DELANEY: Not yet?

MS. GREEN: Not yet. On page 70 --

MS. LYONS: This is just the agenda.

MS. GREEN: The agenda? Oh, I'm sorry.

MR. DELANEY: I'm talking about the agenda.

MS. GREEN: Sorry.

MR. DELANEY: So I do have a motion, and we'll accept a second.

MS. BURGESS: Second.

MS. STEPHENSON: Second.

MR. DELANEY: All those approve, signify by saying

1           aye.

2           BOARD MEMBERS:   Aye.

3           MR. DELANEY:   Okay, we'll work off this agenda.

4           **APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING (JANUARY 11, 2016)**

5           MR. DELANEY:   And then we will have -- do the  
6           minutes, and Lilli's about to make a comment on the  
7           draft minutes.

8           What would you like to amend?

9           MS. GREEN:   Page 70.   At the bottom of the page,  
10          Mary-Jo Avellar was clarifying that there was one  
11          abstention.   It was not Mary-Jo.   It was me.

12          MR. DELANEY:   Okay, all right.   That's duly  
13          noted.

14          Any other edits, changes, or corrections to the  
15          draft minutes as printed?

16          (No response.)

17          MR. DELANEY:   Okay, hearing none, let's take a vote  
18          on approval of the minutes with that change.

19          All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

20          BOARD MEMBERS:   Aye.

21          MR. DELANEY:   Opposed?

22          (No response.)

23          MR. DELANEY:   Good, all right.   And those were the  
24          minutes from January 11.

1                                    **REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

2                    MR. DELANEY: Now, reports from officers. I  
3 believe there are none, but I will use this opportunity  
4 to introduce to us, to you Kathleen Bacon, who is back  
5 here. And she's been recently nominated by Wellfleet to  
6 be the alternate to this group.

7                    So thank you for volunteering for that.

8                    MS. BACON: Thank you.

9                    MR. DELANEY: This is your first meeting. You'll  
10 see we have a flow to it. Most of the alternates are at  
11 the table -- I mean, the delegates are at the table. If  
12 not, we hope you'd be available to step in when needed.  
13 And we also have a chance for alternates to contribute  
14 during the discussion on certain things.

15                   MS. BACON: I'll just go with the flow. Thank you.

16                   MR. DELANEY: Good, great. Sounds great.

17                                   **REPORTS OF SUBCOMMITTEES**

18                   MR. DELANEY: So how about reports from  
19 subcommittee chairs? As always, Maureen, would you like  
20 to give us an update on the Pilgrim Nuclear Plant  
21 Emergency Planning Subcommittee?

22                   MS. BURGESS: Sure. Can I just say a word about  
23 Nickerson first?

24                   MR. DELANEY: Oh, sorry, Nickerson. Thank you.

1                    NICKERSON FUND UPDATE

2                    MS. BURGESS: We met this morning on the Nickerson  
3 Fellowship Committee, and we had six proposals. And we  
4 were able to -- we have a fund of \$3,000 to work with,  
5 so it's not a big pot of money. It's always good if  
6 someone would like to contribute to the Nickerson. Via  
7 the Friends at the Cape Cod National Seashore, you can  
8 earmark your contribution for the Nickerson.

9                    We were able to fully fund one and offer partial  
10 funding to another. So Sophia Fox will be letting those  
11 winners know, so I can't reveal who they are until  
12 they're notified.

13                   UPDATE OF PILGRIM NUCLEAR PLANT EMERGENCY PLANNING

14                   SUBCOMMITTEE

15                   MS. BURGESS: With regard to the Pilgrim Nuclear  
16 Planning Subcommittee, as you know, the focus has been  
17 on the recent information that they will be closing down  
18 in 2019. Of course, the concern for many people is what  
19 is going to happen to fix the flaws that are currently  
20 in the plant and with regard to operations before that  
21 time and, also, what is going to be put in place in  
22 terms of making sure they've raised enough money to  
23 decommission properly so that the taxpayers don't get --  
24 have to foot that bill.

1           So I wanted to update you on a couple of things.  
2           Number one -- I did give you two handouts. With regard  
3           to the decommissioning, for your information, on March  
4           23 at the Plymouth Public Library at 7 p.m. there's  
5           going to be a decommissioning forum focusing on who  
6           should pay and just trying to keep the focus on Entergy  
7           having their feet held to the fire to make sure that  
8           they stay on target in terms of proper funding for  
9           decommissioning so they don't walk away and it falls to  
10          the taxpayers. There is an extended dead-- -- so I  
11          encourage anybody to go. I have a phone number for the  
12          library, if you'd like, I can give you after the  
13          meeting.

14          The NRC extended the deadline for decommissioning  
15          comments up until March 18, so it's coming up. This was  
16          a first step towards developing a regulatory basis for a  
17          new rule on decommissioning commercial nuclear power  
18          plants. And those comments, again, I have a link if  
19          you'd like to refer to the docket number where you can  
20          make your comments up until that time.

21          You will recall that we as an advisory commission  
22          have supported bills by both Representative Peake and  
23          Senator Wolf around Pilgrim, and we have written letters  
24          in support. And in the fall I did represent you by

1       testifying up on Beacon Hill in support of one of  
2       Senator Wolf's bills.

3               I wanted to give you an update. Let me start with  
4       the good news. It looks like the Peake and Ferrante  
5       bill, House Bill No. 2167, an act relative to emergency  
6       planning, has moved out of committee, and it looks like  
7       it has a chance to pass. Specifically, it directs MEMA  
8       -- that's Massachusetts Emergency Management Agency --  
9       to assess and report on the preparedness plans for a  
10      radiological accident at both Pilgrim and Seabrook. So  
11      that would include not only emergency planning zoning  
12      and evaluation of current procedures, but the entire  
13      gamut. And it would require them to make their plan  
14      public, and if it is reviewed by the Governor and he  
15      finds it deficient, he has the right to send it back and  
16      have it re-looked at to reject it basically. So at  
17      least that's something.

18             With regard to Sarah Peake's other bills, H.230 --  
19      2030, that was the Department of Public Health funding  
20      for radiological monitoring outside of the immediate  
21      area around Pilgrim, which would include Cape Cod. That  
22      has been -- it looks like it's been extended for further  
23      study, which basically means rest in peace. It's not  
24      going anywhere. The one with regard to -- including



1 extending the emergency planning zone to 50 miles, that  
2 is still -- I guess there is a possibility that that  
3 might be, but I haven't -- has anyone heard anything  
4 with regard to that?

5 MS. GREEN: I know that the deadline to move bills  
6 out of committee is Wednesday the end of the day, this  
7 week Wednesday.

8 MS. BURGESS: So it's not looking too good on  
9 either of those.

10 And then Dan Wolf's Bill 1797, which would have  
11 imposed a \$10,000 fee on each bundle of spent fuel rods,  
12 that has been put out for further study. There's a fear  
13 of challenge of preemption because the federal  
14 government has the right of preemption over what the  
15 state requires. So that doesn't look like it's going to  
16 move, but the one which imposes a \$25 million fee to put  
17 in escrow monies for decommissioning looks like it may  
18 have a better chance. So that's where we are with those  
19 bills.

20 Oh, one big thing that happened was that seven NRC  
21 engineers, Nuclear Regulatory Commission engineers,  
22 filed a petition with their employer to either correct  
23 or shut down all 99 plants in the U.S. due to a design  
24 flaw in the electrical power system, and that system is

1       needed to cool the reactor core. And they've asked for  
2       a response from the NRC by March 21. So local activists  
3       in response to that submitted a petition to the federal  
4       regulators calling on them to fix that same flaw in the  
5       Pilgrim plant, and that was written by Mary Lampert,  
6       president of the Pilgrim Watch, and co-signed by  
7       organizations which we are familiar with like Cape  
8       Downwinders, Jones River Watershed, Duxbury Nuclear  
9       Advisory Committee.

10               So I think those are the essentials. I probably  
11       have been following in the *Cape Cod Times*, you know, the  
12       continued problems with operations at Pilgrim, so I  
13       won't enumerate all of them because Christine Legere has  
14       been doing a good job on keeping us up to date on that.

15               So unless anybody has any questions or if Sheila or  
16       Lilli want to chime in.

17               MS. LYONS: I don't really have any questions. I  
18       think that they're doing a good job, and the *Times* has  
19       done a very good job of keeping the focus on this, but  
20       in addition, if anybody has picked it up, there have  
21       been a couple of documentaries on PBS. One was just  
22       recently about the Fukushima fifth anniversary -- and  
23       that was really an eye-opening experience -- and how  
24       that is draining into the drinking water and their

1 efforts to contain that right from the beginning. And I  
2 think there's a reporter who's going to continue  
3 reporting on this. He just -- his name is escaping me,  
4 but he was in the field in the Middle East. And he had  
5 an accident and had his arm blown off, if anybody  
6 remembers this.

7 MS. STEPHENSON: Miles O'Brien.

8 MS. LYONS: Miles O'Brien, that's right. There he  
9 is. So Miles O'Brien is going to be continuing his  
10 focus on this, so it is going to be I think all this  
11 month. And it is eye-opening, it is frightening, and I  
12 think it's right in line of what we're looking at here.  
13 Thankfully, it is not a disaster that we're facing, but  
14 all of those conditions, you know, we've all feared that  
15 it's been seeping into our airways, our waterways. I'm  
16 sure it is in slow trickles. So it's all timely. Just  
17 an FYI.

18 MR. DELANEY: Are there any thoughts? Judy?

19 MS. STEPHENSON: Maureen, I didn't understand.  
20 Who's petitioning the nuclear regulatory agency?

21 MS. BURGESS: So a group of -- so seven engineers  
22 that work for the NRC --

23 MS. STEPHENSON: They themselves?

24 MS. BURGESS: They themselves petitioned their

1 employers at the NRC and said basically, "Fix them or  
2 shut them down. This is very serious." And they have  
3 till March -- they're hoping to have a response by March  
4 21, but there are people, you know, in our area like  
5 Pilgrim Coalition, Pilgrim Watch who really stay on top  
6 of this, and they immediately, some of these groups,  
7 pulled together their own petition, which they sent to  
8 the NRC to support it.

9 MS. STEPHENSON: Does the NRC have a balanced -- a  
10 full board?

11 MS. BURGESS: Yeah, there's -- what?

12 MS. STEPHENSON: Well, they wanted to appoint  
13 someone and Republicans were stalling this? Does anyone  
14 know what the status of the board is?

15 MS. BURGESS: I don't -- I thought they were fully  
16 staffed. I could be wrong.

17 MS. STEPHENSON: I'm out of date, so I --

18 MS. BURGESS: I know that their last two chairmen  
19 both recommended not starting Pilgrim up again, and they  
20 both were voted down. They both were in opposition to  
21 relicensing Pilgrim for another 40 years. Jaczko and  
22 then a woman that followed him.

23 MR. DELANEY: And then she resigned.

24 MS. BURGESS: Then she resigned.

1 MR. DELANEY: Does everyone have this?

2 MS. BURGESS: I did pass out a couple of things.

3 MR. DELANEY: Check in your packet.

4 MS. BURGESS: Look at your packet.

5 MS. STEPHENSON: No, my packet's empty.

6 MS. BURGESS: I gave you a handout.

7 MS. STEPHENSON: Under the press clippings?

8 MS. BURGESS: Yeah.

9 MS. STEPHENSON: No.

10 MR. DELANEY: Judy, it's an article on the seven  
11 engineers who made the statement --

12 MS. STEPHENSON: Okay, thank you.

13 MR. DELANEY: -- about their -- to their employer.  
14 I mean, these are seven engineers.

15 Okay, other comments on Plymouth nuclear power  
16 plant and the good work of our subcommittee led by  
17 Maureen?

18 (No response.)

19 MR. DELANEY: Okay, thank you. Hearing none, let's  
20 move on in the agenda to the Superintendent's Report.

21 MR. PRICE: Thank you.

22 **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

23 **STORM DAMAGE/EROSION UPDATE**

24 MR. PRICE: So I wanted to bring up some storm

1 damage updates. This is not new information. It seems  
2 like the last several years I've been talking about  
3 storm damage, but this year both topics or both areas  
4 are pretty extraordinary.

5 Last month we talked about our field trip that we  
6 made to the Nauset Light Beach in Eastham. I brought  
7 everybody down there because we're thinking very  
8 seriously about trying to move forward with actually  
9 demolishing those facilities after this summer season.  
10 They're not even on the list for replacement until 2019,  
11 and that's if that priority holds. So that will be  
12 something different. And part of the issue is that  
13 we've had such severe erosion of the bluff at that  
14 particular location.

15 Since I reported this to you all in January, it's  
16 even gotten more dire, and we've been down there  
17 numerous times. Last week I went down with Graham Giese  
18 and Mark Borrelli, the coastal scientists from the  
19 Center for Coastal Studies. And now the septic tank is  
20 within 17 feet of the bluff itself, which is pretty  
21 concerning.

22 So you have to realize that this is an area that  
23 when I first came here we were regularly switching out  
24 the stairs of that every three, four, five years. Well,

1        now this is the fourth year in a row. Last year we had  
2        18 feet of erosion at that particular location. I don't  
3        even know how many feet it's been so far this year, but  
4        it just is pretty dramatic. And I spoke with Graham  
5        because if you take a look over the cliff, it's not just  
6        at that particular spot where the stairs are. It's  
7        probably about a mile swath where it's just  
8        extraordinary cutting. And when you look over the edge,  
9        you can see that there's like 15-20 yards' worth of  
10       vegetation has fallen over that is either on the bluff  
11       or is on the beach, and yet up here at the Marconi Beach  
12       it's accreting sand. So that beach is getting wider.  
13       Those stairs are well protected. At Coast Guard Beach,  
14       it hasn't changed very much. I was just there again on  
15       Saturday. So if you remember, Coast Guard Beach and  
16       Marconi Beach aren't that far apart. So right in the  
17       middle is Nauset, and that section is really getting  
18       hammered.

19                So Graham was saying that part of it is that at  
20       this particular time the majority of the energy that's  
21       coming off of the North Atlantic and facing the entire  
22       Cape is just focused on that location. He can tell by  
23       looking at it, and they're going to do some more  
24       research. There just doesn't seem to be any sandbars

1 off -- off the beach. Normally the wave action takes  
2 the sand off the beach. We have a winter beach. The  
3 sandbars line up right beyond the breakers. You can see  
4 various lines of breakers happening before it actually  
5 gets to the shoreline. That's not happening at Nauset.  
6 So it's really given us this extraordinary amount of  
7 energy at that particular location.

8 So Kathy Tevyaw and I have regularly been speaking  
9 with our regional office and trying to solicit some  
10 support for emergency funding and to figure out what  
11 we're going to do with this season, figure out how to do  
12 the demolition and ultimately the relocation of the  
13 facilities. Thrown in there we're also trying to get  
14 some support to explore the removable stair option, and  
15 I absolutely understand how people believe, "Well,  
16 that's a commonsense thing. Why didn't you do that  
17 years ago?" Well, for one thing, for the cost of the  
18 stairs, for the cost of what removable stairs will cost,  
19 if you only replaced it once every three, four, five  
20 years, it wasn't that much. It was expendable  
21 construction. But now if it's an every year thing,  
22 obviously that ups the ante, and therefore, it makes it  
23 more interesting to examine it. The other reason it's  
24 not all that easy to figure, however, is all the designs



1        we've looked at still require a substantial base on top  
2        of the bluff. So understand we don't just lose the  
3        stairs, but we lose the bluff. So if you've invested in  
4        a foundation on top and it gets undermined, well, then  
5        that's no longer viable either.

6                So there's no easy solutions here at all, but if  
7        you haven't been down to Nauset Light, take a look. Our  
8        staff just removed the rest of the boardwalk that had  
9        been going down to the walkway that is closest to the  
10       bluff. We left part of that boardwalk because people  
11       could at least go out a little bit further for a viewing  
12       platform, and now that's undermined. So it's very, very  
13       impressive and a little bit scary for sure.

14               So we're facing a couple of things; number one, to  
15       make sure that we've got a safe, viable facility for  
16       this season and then, number two, getting support from  
17       our regional office to move ahead with the demolition  
18       after the season and come up with interim plans until we  
19       get a new facility constructed on there. So for those  
20       of you that were on the field trip last time, it's even  
21       more dire today than it was then.

22               Moving to the Herring Cove North parking lot, it's  
23       a similar story in that years ago we just had  
24       intermittent dimples, if you will, that needed repairs.

1       The last several years in a row we've had to provide  
2       major repairs to the revetment area at Herring Cove  
3       North. What's happened now is a little bit different  
4       scenario in that this year there's so much damage at  
5       Herring Cove North, the cost of a single repair just for  
6       the summer would be as much as almost \$800,000. And up  
7       until now we've been spending two hundred, two hundred  
8       and fifty, three hundred thousand dollars. People have  
9       said to me, "Even with that amount, is that a wise use  
10      of money to just do a single repair?" And in my opinion  
11      for serving the visitors, it absolutely is. However,  
12      now if it's as high as seven hundred and seventy-five or  
13      eight hundred, even I have a problem really putting that  
14      in for a repair knowing it's only for one year.

15               So we're in the process of discussions with our  
16      Washington offices and the Philadelphia offices of  
17      staying more in the category of what they've given us in  
18      the past but letting us try to figure out how to repair  
19      as much as we can for that dollar amount, to figure out  
20      how many of the spaces we can actually keep open, and  
21      then publicize that "This is what we're all facing,  
22      folks. This is nature." And we still have high hopes  
23      that the permanent fix, which you all have -- I think  
24      everybody is familiar with, but we went through that

1       several-year vet, that year-long process. We now have a  
2       fix that would, you know, move it back the 125 feet and  
3       give us something that we believe will have a 50-year  
4       lifespan. That project is about \$5 million, and we  
5       understand that priority is still on the list for 2018.  
6       So we can -- we feel like we can almost glimpse that,  
7       and in speaking with our offices, the Denver office and  
8       the Washington and the Philadelphia offices are  
9       activating the pieces that need to be activated now for  
10      the 2018 project.

11             So we have a project manager. We'll be going to  
12      our design advisory board in July. So all the  
13      preliminary things that have to put a project in place  
14      are happening. So even though the 2018 project as well  
15      as the 2019 project are not cast in stone, priorities  
16      can change, especially if there's another Hurricane  
17      Sandy or something that we have to react to nationally,  
18      but I'm feeling very good about that priority list. So  
19      in light of a 2018 total fix, I think I'm looking at  
20      something that's less than a full fix. I have no  
21      information at this point how much emergency funding  
22      we'll actually get this year at all. So it's still  
23      totally up in the air. We wouldn't even be able to make  
24      a total assessment of the total damage probably until

1 May, anticipating there's still some potential  
2 nor'easters that can come in and do some damage, which  
3 we've had experience with.

4 So the only good news is that we can say we  
5 definitely will still have the parking lot open in the  
6 Herring Cove North. We just are not sure at this point  
7 how many spaces we would have compared to what's  
8 normally there on a regular basis. So I met with the  
9 town manager the other day. I wanted to make sure that  
10 you all knew what I was thinking. Mary-Jo, Kathy, and I  
11 met, and then we had a field trip this morning for a  
12 number of you to actually go out and see what we're  
13 talking about.

14 So I think we're just -- you know, as I use the  
15 term, we're at ground zero for sea level rise and  
16 climate change, and we're dealing with facilities in the  
17 case of Herring Cove North that have been in place for a  
18 real long time. And we learned through the process of  
19 what the new one should look like that's -- that's a  
20 facility that's long seen its day as far as being in  
21 that location and being that type of construction, and  
22 now we're looking for alternatives that I think will  
23 have a longer term service to the visiting public.

24 So that's about where we are. So as I've said,

1 both of these conversations are more conversational.  
2 I'm not reporting to you exactly what we're doing and  
3 what we have in hand, but I felt it's important to let  
4 you all know and let the communities know what we're  
5 thinking at this time.

6 MR. DELANEY: George, can you be a little bit more  
7 specific with it being on the list for 2018? Is that  
8 fiscal year '18?

9 MR. PRICE: Yes.

10 MR. DELANEY: Does that mean construction might  
11 happen and the beach would be open in 2018 or be  
12 repaired during '18, open in the summer of 2019?

13 MR. PRICE: No, we believe that we would schedule  
14 it so that the construction would happen during the off-  
15 season, similar to what happened with the bathhouse.

16 MR. DELANEY: So the summer of 2018 it could be  
17 potentially --

18 MR. PRICE: Open.

19 MR. DELANEY: -- open?

20 MR. PRICE: That would be the plan, and that's what  
21 we would strive for again.

22 MR. DELANEY: Good.

23 MR. PRICE: So that's, in fact, what happened with  
24 the bathhouse.

1 MR. DELANEY: Mary-Jo?

2 MS. AVELLAR: When George gave the town manager  
3 this handout, I counted that there are 210 spaces out  
4 there, and 121 of them are anywhere from fair to serious  
5 -- poor to serious condition, so more than half of the  
6 spaces. It's of great concern to the Town of  
7 Provincetown because of the proximity that people can  
8 actually get to the beach. It's our most important  
9 beach. It's the only beach where you can just pull up  
10 right now. People are going out there looking for  
11 whales, doing the sunset, all the things that we do out  
12 there. I'm going to recommend to the board of selectmen  
13 tonight that they -- and I'm not going to use the  
14 vernacular in this meeting, although I did use it in the  
15 other meeting, but somebody's got to kick somebody's  
16 butt upstairs to get this thing moving because when  
17 Delahunt and Studds were our representatives in  
18 Congress, when we had problems with the Seashore, we got  
19 action right away. And I'm not seeing any action, and  
20 I'm very distressed by this whole situation. I can only  
21 imagine how people in Nauset must feel, but you've got a  
22 septic system situation which makes it even worse.

23 So the selectmen all have this. I imagine I can  
24 arrange for (inaudible) to get a copy of it, but it's

1           very grim.  It's very grim.

2           MR. DELANEY:  Sheila?

3           MS. LYONS:  I just wanted to go back to the Nauset  
4           situation with the septic.  So it's 17 feet to the  
5           beach.

6           MR. PRICE:  To the bluff.

7           MS. LYONS:  To the bluff.  So are you going to be  
8           able to address that this year?

9           MR. PRICE:  Two things.  Number one, as you look at  
10          the facility, the constructive end to the building is  
11          the edge of the ladies' dressing room.

12          MS. LYONS:  Right.

13          MR. PRICE:  The septic box, the actual septic tank  
14          is closer to the bluff than the edge of the building is.

15          MS. LYONS:  That's pretty close.

16          MR. PRICE:  So right now we have -- if you go out  
17          there, you'll see one of these snow guides in the  
18          bushes.  That's on top of the manhole cover for the  
19          septic tank.  So that's the thing that's 17 feet from  
20          the bushes as of last Thursday.

21          MS. STEPHENSON:  What does a snow guide look like?

22          MS. TEVYAW:  It's like the red and white poles.

23          MR. PRICE:  Yeah, it's like the pole that you put  
24          up for your driveway.

1 MS. LYONS: Yeah, the marker that sticks into.

2 MR. PRICE: Yeah, that was just handy.

3 MS. STEPHENSON: I didn't know what the thing is  
4 out there that then has little pointers out on the bluff  
5 at Coast Guard.

6 MR. PRICE: That's Coast Guard Beach.

7 MS. STEPHENSON: Yeah, I just wondered what that  
8 thing was.

9 MR. PRICE: That's a radiological research project  
10 going on with a university.

11 Now, so this is just the snow guide which is right  
12 down there. It's not easy to see if you're from a  
13 distance, but that certainly shows you how close we are  
14 to the bluff. So we could actually get pretty close to  
15 that because it's a tight tank literally, but basically  
16 the septic material goes out of the bathhouses to the  
17 tank and then flows back in the opposite direction, so  
18 under where the stairs are. That's where the leach  
19 field is. So the leach field is not affected to the  
20 bluff base, but that septic tank basically is our most  
21 critical thing.

22 So if we had a couple of serious storms between now  
23 and Memorial Day and it became exposed, then we'd  
24 probably be shutting that down. People have said to me,



1 "Well, what about relocating or redoing that?" We  
2 believe that would be an extraordinary amount of money  
3 to try to relocate the septic tank, again, knowing that  
4 the whole facility needs to be demolished.

5 MR. DELANEY: Mary-Jo?

6 MS. AVELLAR: Has it been drained?

7 MR. PRICE: No.

8 MS. AVELLAR: Can you get like one of those  
9 cesspool truck guys out there to drain the tank?

10 MR. PRICE: Well, if we're using the facility this  
11 season, we'd still be using it.

12 MS. AVELLAR: I see. But if you drained the tank  
13 and used Porta-Potties instead?

14 MR. PRICE: That would be the option. That's what  
15 we would have to do, and obviously it would have to be  
16 drained before it was removed anyway.

17 MS. AVELLAR: Right.

18 MS. LYONS: At the Salt Pond, you have a natural  
19 lavatory system.

20 MR. PRICE: Actually, what it is, is it was an  
21 advanced filtering system for its day. I wouldn't call  
22 it natural, okay? So in 2005 we totally redid the Salt  
23 Pond Visitors Center mostly because the septic system  
24 was failing, which was a very traditional system. So

1 all the material goes to a large vat, a very large thing  
2 with all these filters in it. And it filters the  
3 material until the sensors demonstrate that it's very  
4 low nitrate, and then that's what gets sent out into the  
5 leach field, which is basically the entire front lawn of  
6 the Visitors Center, high in the soil so it evaporates  
7 quickly.

8 MS. LYONS: Correct, it's being soaked up by the --

9 MR. PRICE: So we've been working with the county,  
10 George Heufelder and others on monitoring that over time  
11 to try to determine if it's doing what we had hoped it  
12 was going to do.

13 MS. LYONS: And? Do we have those results? It is?

14 MR. PRICE: We're still working on it.

15 MS. LYONS: Yeah, it's going to take a long time.

16 MR. PRICE: Yeah.

17 MR. DELANEY: So two just to keep our eyes on.

18 Any other questions on those -- that report?

19 (No response.)

20 MR. DELANEY: George, please continue with your  
21 shorebird management plan.

22 MR. PRICE: Sure.

23 SHOREBIRD MANAGEMENT PLAN/ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT UPDATE

24 MR. PRICE: Just a couple of things. So people

1 have asked me what's the next steps on the shorebird  
2 management plan. As you know, we received something  
3 like 2,000 comments. We've actually had to extend our  
4 contract with the contractor that's working with us on  
5 that in order to even assess and analyze the information  
6 that we've received. It looks as if we're looking at  
7 September at this point for a full debrief and analysis  
8 to figure out what our next steps are, and that would  
9 probably be the earliest for what's called a record of  
10 decision, depending on which way we ultimately decide to  
11 go.

12 So it's a lot of comments that we received. It's  
13 my understanding -- I think at the last meeting I was  
14 asked about a state plan that had just come out. Their  
15 comment period closed. I understand they received about  
16 160 comments, and I know we did a similar program down  
17 in New Jersey. I think they got six. So we obviously  
18 have a population that's very interested in what we're  
19 doing, and we're getting a lot of feedback, for sure.

20 So we have to take a look at those. A lot of the  
21 comments were very simple, just agreeing with one  
22 position or another, and then some were very elaborate,  
23 multi pages. Some people spent a lot of time going  
24 through with a lot of -- a lot of edits from their

1 perspective. So it's nothing that we're going to be  
2 able to do quickly.

3 MR. DELANEY: Question on that one? Mary-Jo?

4 MS. AVELLAR: The board of selectmen -- or, no,  
5 it's a petitioned article in the town meeting based on  
6 this plan that Provincetown be a cruelty-free zone.  
7 FYI.

8 MR. PRICE: Okay.

9 NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PROJECTS - BATS

10 MR. PRICE: One of the issues that I wanted to talk  
11 about is the natural resource management. We spend a  
12 lot of time talking about erosion. We spend a lot of  
13 time talking about shorebird management, but I did want  
14 you all to -- you're very familiar with a lot of the  
15 projects that our folks are involved with, and in our  
16 world we spend a lot of time talking about bats, whether  
17 it's the diseases that they're involved with or the  
18 population numbers that we're talking about. So I asked  
19 Dr. Bob Cook to give us an update of the types of things  
20 that we're doing and what he's involved in.

21 MR. COOK: Thank you, George.

22 Thank you, Committee, for having me here today.

23 Before I get started, I just want to give credit  
24 that what I have here is a slide presentation that I was

1       able to get from researchers who are at State University  
2       of New York College of Environmental Science and  
3       Forestry in Syracuse. That's what SUNY stands for,  
4       State University of New York.

5               And so before we get into this, I just want to  
6       mention the upland habitats of the National Seashore  
7       actually make up about three-quarters of the total area  
8       of the Park. I'm talking about that area that is above  
9       the high tide line. So most of the Park is actually  
10      upland habitat. So though, as George would -- comments  
11      apply, we seem to spend most of our time talking about  
12      what's happening below the tide line rather than above  
13      the tide line. And for good reason. But also I wanted  
14      to mention that it's these upland habitats that are  
15      really a large reason why the Park supports such an  
16      abundance of plant and animal species. The Park has a  
17      pretty significant biodiversity, as we call it in  
18      conservation science, and it's largely due to the upland  
19      habitats, although the combination of marine and upland  
20      really kind of gives us a good synergy for that.

21             So anyway, the bats represent one of the wildlife  
22      groups that we know very little about because, among  
23      other reasons, they're one of the more difficult groups  
24      of animals to try and study. If they were as easy to

1 study as mice or rabbits, we know a lot more about them,  
2 but unfortunately, they're not.

3 So first off, why do we care about bats? As I  
4 mentioned, they are part of the native species wildlife  
5 diversity that the Park has been established as one of  
6 the reasons why. Also, their presence and the health of  
7 their populations are indicators of the health of the  
8 ecosystem. They do play a major role in regulating  
9 insect populations, although animals that regulate  
10 populations generally aren't necessarily going to  
11 eliminate insects, but they're going to kind of keep the  
12 population levels in check. And they help with  
13 pollination, seed dispersal, and unfortunately, many of  
14 the populations now are facing extinction in the  
15 Northeast.

16 So what do we know about Seashore bats? Very  
17 little. One of the very first studies of bat migration,  
18 however, took place at the Highland Light and was  
19 published in 1890 and is one of the first studies to  
20 document the phenomenon of bat migration in late summer.  
21 A study was done in the mid-'70s of the Outer Cape in  
22 general and noted that the Northern long-eared bat was  
23 the most abundant of the summer resident species here on  
24 the Outer Cape. And, you know, 15 or so years ago there

1        were studies in Martha's Vineyard and Camp Edwards, not  
2        here in the Seashore but nearby, showing that these  
3        things -- these species were present here in the  
4        vicinity of the Seashore.

5                Okay, so the extinction threat, disease was  
6        discovered maybe ten years ago called white-nose  
7        syndrome, discovered in bat hibernation caves near  
8        Albany, New York. Recently discovered, it's been  
9        recently determined that it's a species of fungus that  
10       was originated from Europe, and it's believed that it  
11       was transported to North America through human agencies.  
12       So essentially it's an exotic disease, a non-native  
13       disease. So all of our North American native species  
14       have never had any exposure to it. Kind of like  
15       smallpox in the Native Americans type of thing. So as a  
16       result, there have been huge declines in the populations  
17       of bats in the Northeast.

18               So what we have here, for example, the long-eared  
19       bat population in New England is estimated to be down  
20       about 90 percent. It's been listed by the federal  
21       government as a threatened species. It's listed as an  
22       endangered species by the state of Massachusetts. And  
23       similarly, the little brown bat, which most of us grew  
24       up thinking were sort of the -- so common they were the

1       equivalent of a field mouse, they are now an endangered  
2       species in the state of Massachusetts.

3               And you can see these are the individuals with the  
4       white-nose syndrome. That's the fungus growing on the  
5       nose, and it ends up killing the vast majority of  
6       individuals that come up with the disease, although not  
7       all. Some individuals do survive, so maybe there's some  
8       hope that enough will survive and that can help  
9       repopulate things.

10              So this represents really the first time there have  
11       ever been any formalized bat inventories done here at  
12       the National Seashore. And we're sort of starting out  
13       very general, just want to understand the presence,  
14       abundance, if possible, habitat use, habitat presence,  
15       get some sense if we can of white-nose syndrome, and try  
16       to hopefully begin to locate important points on the  
17       landscape for bats like maternity roofs and hibernation  
18       sites, if they exist here. And I'll have more about  
19       that in a minute.

20              So the methods that are used for bats -- and this  
21       is probably why they're not that readily studied -- mist  
22       netting is the way that is often used to capture bats.  
23       And I'm sure here folks are familiar with gill nets.  
24       Mist net is basically a terrestrial adaptation of a gill



1 net. They're also used to capture songbirds when people  
2 are trying to ban them for studies. They're basically  
3 set up in areas where the bats will fly into them and  
4 get tangled up in them, and they're monitored on a very  
5 frequent basis unlike gill nets that are constantly  
6 monitored so that an animal is not in the net for very  
7 long because the whole purpose is to identify the  
8 animals, capture them, collect information on age, sex,  
9 reproductive condition, whether the female is nursing or  
10 not, and in some instances to put radio transmitters on  
11 them.

12 So here are some of the results of what we're --  
13 and the work last year was really pretty much limited to  
14 June and July. It was the first year, so we're just  
15 really kind of getting started yet. But you can see the  
16 big brown bat was the overwhelming majority of  
17 individuals captured, a small number of red bats, and  
18 eight Northern long-eared bats, which compared to other  
19 areas in the interior where the long-eared bat  
20 populations have really suffered from white-nose  
21 syndrome, this is a lot of long-eared bats compared to  
22 those areas, although from what I understand Martha's  
23 Vineyard folks there now are only capturing small  
24 numbers relative to what they did 20 years ago.

1           So anyway, this is the long-eared bat. It's now  
2 listed as federally threatened, Massachusetts  
3 endangered. It's vulnerable to white-nose syndrome, but  
4 the populations here on the Cape, the Islands, and Long  
5 Island, basically these glacial outwash habitats that  
6 we're all familiar with, they seem to be doing a little  
7 bit less badly here than elsewhere in the interior.

8           So the radio tags are attached to the back of the  
9 animal, little tiny tags that are glued to the back of  
10 the bats if they're large enough to carry the weight.  
11 They're good for about 15 days before the batteries give  
12 out and/or they fall off. So they do provide some  
13 information on where these animals are going in the  
14 daytime. And what they have found when they have  
15 tracked these bats during the daytime to see where  
16 they're spending the day is that the majority of  
17 individuals are in the cracks and crevices on the  
18 exterior of houses. Some of them are making use of  
19 naturally occurring trees, but they seem to have, I'll  
20 say, a like for the structures.

21           The second part of the work has to do with looking  
22 at the presence and habitat use of bats using recording  
23 equipment, acoustic sampling. These are basically  
24 recorders that are set up on any given site for a couple

1 of rounds of sampling, and they take advantage of the  
2 fact that bats echolocate. And they use echolocation  
3 for detecting and capturing their prey at night but also  
4 for just informing themselves about the world around  
5 them so they don't fly into things at night. So they've  
6 had echolocation, a form of sonar, for quite a long  
7 time. So these acoustic sampling devices are set up at  
8 a series of points throughout the Park, and they're left  
9 out overnight for several nights in order to record the  
10 sound of bat vocalizations, which are all high  
11 frequency. Units can't hear that range.

12 MR. DELANEY: Bob, is the system able to detect the  
13 sound of different species of bats?

14 MR. COOK: Right, right. They've got computer  
15 software that helps in identifying bat vocalizations and  
16 does the first cut towards identifying to species, and  
17 then one of the researchers will go and review any  
18 record that appears to be a bat and visually look at it.  
19 So I'll get into that.

20 MR. DELANEY: Okay.

21 MR. COOK: So basically what these methods produce  
22 are these sonograms, and they can match the sonograms  
23 that they've recorded in their field data against  
24 reference collections of known individual sonograms from

1 individuals that they know have been positively  
2 identified. So it's a two -- two process, first  
3 mechanical and then unit confirm things.

4 So I guess they were able to come up with 869 calls  
5 that they were able to identify to the species, I guess.  
6 What that would mean to me is that not every time they  
7 recorded a bat they were able to identify it to the  
8 exact species, so those records don't necessarily get  
9 counted.

10 And just to give you a breakdown of the calls by  
11 species, this is the big brown bat. So kind of  
12 consistent with the mist netting data, it was by and  
13 large the most common species that were being found  
14 here. Second largest were silver-haired bat, and I'm  
15 not sure what the dates of this species being recorded  
16 were. There might have been some fall recording data  
17 that I'm not positive because this is generally thought  
18 of as a migratory species through the area. But anyway,  
19 we've got the silver-haired bat, the hoary bat, which  
20 also is typically a species that migrates through the  
21 Cape Cod region. The red bat, that appears to be one of  
22 our summer species, and here is the long-eared bat with  
23 35 calls. So certainly the long-eared bat is not the  
24 dominant species here, which I suppose is consistent

1 with it being its threatened status right now.

2 Just to give you a little bit more detail, this is  
3 kind of a breakdown by habitat type of where the calls  
4 were recorded for the big brown bat, and you can see it  
5 kind of occurs in a broad range of habitat types whereas  
6 the long-eared bat almost all of their recordings were  
7 coming from forest habitats. One thing -- and I should  
8 preface this by telling you I know lots about frogs and  
9 snakes and turtles. I know not so much about bats, so  
10 I'm learning a lot in all of this as I go. What I've  
11 learned is that the long-eared bat -- we think of bats  
12 as flying around catching insects, moths, mosquitoes on  
13 the wing. The long-eared bat I'm told doesn't feed so  
14 much by flying but by gleaning. It likes to land on  
15 trees, and then it just walks around on the trees and  
16 eats the insects off the surface of the tree. It's a  
17 process called gleaning. So the bats are eating not  
18 just the flying insects but also the insects that are  
19 hanging out on the forest trees as well, but apparently  
20 they do not like to come out into the open. They like  
21 to stay inside a nice closed canopy forest where they  
22 feed and where they're less vulnerable to predators at  
23 night.

24 And this is just sort of a breakdown by habitat

1 categories. This is a little bit confusing, but the --  
2 there's a little bit more to that. It's not showing up.  
3 ENF, these are woodland habitats, and what they're  
4 showing -- and this is a scrub oak. What it's basically  
5 showing is the habitat specialization of the long-eared  
6 bat, this species here, where some of these other  
7 species are much more generalized in coming out. The  
8 ones that are feeding out in the open on flying insects  
9 are not limited to the forest. They occur through a  
10 broad range of habitats whereas the Northern long-eared  
11 bat is a forest specialist species.

12 So what this work is going to be going -- this was  
13 the first year so far of what now we have been  
14 successful in getting what will amount to four years'  
15 worth of funding, so we will have four years of  
16 research. The first two years are going to focus on  
17 what's happening in the summertime. The last two years  
18 are going to focus on fall/winter activities. One of  
19 the big hypotheses about why are long-eared bats  
20 seemingly doing well along the coast compared to inland  
21 is there have been little tidbits of discoveries in the  
22 last few years as well as some historic accounts of  
23 long-eared bats spending the winter in human structures.  
24 And so this kind of suggests that not all long-eared

1       bats migrate inland to spend the winter in a cave. And  
2       what this would mean is that if the long-eared bats are  
3       spending their time that live on the coast or  
4       hibernating locally, they're avoiding exposure to white-  
5       nose syndrome by avoiding those caves. Those caves are  
6       bad places to go to because of all of the white-nose  
7       syndrome. So kind of the Holy Grail will be putting  
8       radios on long-eared bats in the fall and following them  
9       and documenting that they are, in fact, spending their  
10      winters here on Cape Cod perhaps in a structure of some  
11      sort. And this seems to be or is thought to be the  
12      reason why they're doing relatively well here on Cape  
13      Cod. So that's what the last two years of this work  
14      will lead up to.

15             And that's it. Thank you for this chance to speak  
16      to you.

17             MR. DELANEY: Thanks, Bob.

18             MR. COOK: Yes?

19             MR. SPAULDING: Has there been any thought about  
20      putting up any bat houses to locate in areas where they  
21      seem to be spending their time?

22             MR. COOK: That's a good -- there has been thought.  
23      We haven't kind of gotten all the way to that, and  
24      there's also -- you know, if this turns out -- if this

1       hypothesis turns out to be true, thoughts about what  
2       might be done to create these sorts of hibernation  
3       spaces for them. And certainly ideally anytime you can  
4       get a species like that that you can both help it and  
5       influence where it spends its time in a way that you can  
6       manage it, it works out better for everyone because then  
7       they wouldn't be roosting in inconvenient places, but we  
8       just don't know. There have been a lot of anecdotes of  
9       -- not beach -- beach umbrellas. Or you know the  
10      umbrellas you put over your picnic table?

11           MR. SPAULDING: Sure, I've had one.

12           MR. COOK: There's a lot -- have you had bats in --

13           MR. SPAULDING: Yeah.

14           MR. COOK: Yeah, I've been talking to George about  
15      --

16           MR. SPAULDING: It surprised the heck out of me  
17      when you come up and you open the umbrella and a bat  
18      flies out.

19           MR. COOK: Yeah. I've been talking about going to  
20      all of the transfer stations and getting all the  
21      discarded umbrellas and setting up a field full of  
22      umbrellas up here as a bat project.

23           MR. DELANEY: That's not a bad idea.

24           Mary-Jo?



1           MS. AVELLAR: Is there any way of getting rid of  
2 the white-nose syndrome? Is there any -- nothing you  
3 can do?

4           MS. LYONS: Is there any progress?

5           MR. COOK: Not from a veterinary point of view that  
6 I'm aware of. The thing is, the white-nose syndrome  
7 really requires a cold environment. It's referred to as  
8 a cold-loving fungus. So it would not necessarily do  
9 nearly as well here on the coast as it does in the deep  
10 recesses of the Cape. It needs that cold, moist  
11 environment in the cave, so it could be that, you know,  
12 the climate and the relatively warmer climate on the  
13 coast is also helping to keep it at bay.

14           But anyway, this is all very, very preliminary  
15 stuff anyway.

16           Thank you.

17           MR. DELANEY: Thank you very much. Just --

18           MR. PRICE: Thank you very much. I appreciate  
19 him doing this. I wanted to do this for a couple of  
20 reasons. Number one, obviously our staff is spending  
21 time on this research project, which hadn't been done  
22 here in a long time. And number two, as an indicator  
23 species, the same way we're looking at the shoreline  
24 damage, which is indication of what's going on on our

1       natural sciences and whether it's our large inventory  
2       monitoring program or this kind of a project, it rounds  
3       out the types of things that the National Park Service  
4       is doing to try to see really the health, the finger  
5       on the pulse of what's happening in our environment.  
6       So I thought this was a good opportunity to share with  
7       us.

8               Frankly, at the next meeting, another opportunity  
9       might be Dr. Steve Smith talking about the wetlands.  
10       He's been doing a lot of research about the salt  
11       marshes. We've been doing a lot of time out in the  
12       field measuring salt marsh, the heights, and all of  
13       that, and frankly, there's some pretty startling, if not  
14       concerning, future projections with sea level rise with  
15       what's going on with our marshes. So I was planning for  
16       my next Superintendent's Report to do that kind of thing  
17       to keep you all kind of up to date on these disparate-  
18       type programs, but as a whole, it really tells us what's  
19       going on here on Cape Cod.

20              MR. DELANEY: George, speaking for the committee, I  
21       think we all appreciate having those kinds of reports  
22       from the vast array of science that's going on in the  
23       Park. It's really -- we're anxious to learn, and thank  
24       you for doing that on a routine basis.

1                   NATIONAL PARK SERVICE CENTENNIAL

2                   MR. PRICE:   Going through my report, I just wanted  
3                   to reiterate that, although this is the centennial year  
4                   of the creation of the National Park Service, it was not  
5                   the first national park. That was in 1872, but in 1916,  
6                   the same year that our famous volunteer, Russ Moore, was  
7                   born, your National Park Service was created and brought  
8                   together the whole parks into the system.

9                   Here at the Seashore we're doing a number of  
10                  programs. We've talked about the *Healthy Parks, Healthy*  
11                  *People*, which is going to be expanded with Cape Cod  
12                  Healthcare. We have a number of events and exhibits  
13                  happening. We might get the famous Rich Delaney talking  
14                  about his exploits at the Paris World Environmental  
15                  Conference sometime in May in conjunction with our  
16                  environmental quilt exhibit. We are in the process of  
17                  doing a number of facelift projects. This morning our  
18                  field trip took a little diversion. We saw the new  
19                  paving work that's being done up at the Race Point lot.  
20                  We have new paving work happening out here at the  
21                  Marconi Beach facility, and we've just nailed down that  
22                  we will have the amphitheater totally reconstructed at  
23                  the Salt Pond Visitors Center. We decided to not start  
24                  that till the fall to give us the summer break without

1 heavy-duty construction going on down there during the  
2 summer program. So that's something we're very, very  
3 pleased about.

4 If you haven't driven out to Fort Hill, I'd  
5 strongly encourage you to take a look at that wonderful  
6 paint job that was done at the Penniman House. The  
7 shutters have now been put back by Stewart Painting. It  
8 looks absolutely terrific. It's amazing how expensive  
9 these things are. So the Friends gave us -- the Friends  
10 of Cape Cod National Seashore gave us \$100,000 to match  
11 \$100,000 from the Park Service. That was just for the  
12 paint. Another \$60,000 for the shutters. And Kathy  
13 worked with our construction office that we now have  
14 \$500,000 towards redoing the barn. The barn is not just  
15 a paint job. The barn is actually a lot of structural  
16 work as well. And then we did some other landscaping.  
17 So at least the exterior, that will be an entire complex  
18 that will be restored, and then we're continuing to work  
19 on fixing the interior, which still has some water  
20 damage. We do have some money to one more time try to  
21 fix the roof where we think the water damage is coming  
22 in, and then we'll be able to do some indoor -- interior  
23 upgrading at that as well.

24 So I feel very, very good about that. That was not

1 exactly something we felt proud about by looking at it  
2 in the condition it had been, so the fact it was fixed  
3 up looks great.

4 MS. LYONS: So it was \$260,000 to paint that house?

5 MR. PRICE: To paint and to redo the modest type of  
6 repair that had to be done.

7 MS. LYONS: Right, right, so that it wasn't just  
8 another paint job in another two years.

9 MR. PRICE: Right.

10 MS. LYONS: Is that what people face when they  
11 buy these historic homes and they have to -- is that  
12 the going rate, like \$250,000? I mean, I know that  
13 it's expensive. I mean, I had mine done, and I was  
14 shocked. And I have a little tiny -- I mean, it's a  
15 traditional house, but it's not a historic house. And  
16 it's just --

17 MR. PRICE: It is.

18 MS. LYONS: Well, thank you for doing that.

19 MR. PRICE: These things cost a lot of money these  
20 days.

21 Judy?

22 MS. STEPHENSON: Yes. I mean, yesterday it  
23 actually doesn't even look real.

24 MS. LYONS: Wow.

1           MS. STEPHENSON: Beautiful. It was really shocking  
2 to see it up there.

3           MR. PRICE: And the first question everybody asks  
4 me, "Is that the authentic paint color?" The answer is  
5 yes.

6           MS. LYONS: Is yes. And the design of the stripe  
7 too.

8           MR. PRICE: So Captain Penniman -- so when he first  
9 built the house, it was built in a different color, and  
10 then when Captain Penniman painted again, he went with  
11 the more Victorian colors, which is what you see there.  
12 I'll tell you, Victorian colors were not drab.

13          MS. AVELLAR: No, they weren't.

14          MS. LYONS: No.

15          MR. PRICE: If you've ever seen, you know, the  
16 so-called painted ladies, you know, the real fancy  
17 houses, they could be pretty fancy.

18          MS. AVELLAR: Right. Come see the inside of the  
19 Provincetown Town Hall.

20          MS. LYONS: Yes, exactly.

21          MR. PRICE: So August 25 is the actual date that  
22 the legislation was passed, the Organic Act for the  
23 National Park Service, and we'll be having a full day of  
24 activities. That's the day of our science symposium.

1 We'll have a science fair, and we're working on some  
2 other special things there on that day. So that's the  
3 last Thursday in August, okay?

4 MS. LYONS: I have a question. So I have gone to  
5 the theater, and I have seen commercials about, you  
6 know, the celebration and more parks and letting people  
7 -- you know, advertising to the parks and the area to  
8 all of our benefit. Has there been a -- is there  
9 evidence of increased people going? Is there more  
10 interest? Are there more donations through membership,  
11 or has there been any --

12 MR. PRICE: Well, it's not a membership thing  
13 per se. I mean, certainly our major benefactors have  
14 contributed substantially. There's the *Find Your Park*  
15 banner that's in the lobby, and you'll see the five  
16 major contributors like Humana and Disney and those  
17 groups. And they've done a lot of things with the money  
18 that they've contributed. I understand in some parks  
19 more closer to the urban areas there might be a big  
20 change in visitation.

21 So I think I agree with you. The word is out. I  
22 mean, whether it's -- I guess *National Geographic* now is  
23 doing a special on the parks each month. The CBS TV  
24 show *Sunday Morning* is doing a piece on national parks

1 every time, so hopefully the word is getting out. We've  
2 been concerned for a long time about the demographics  
3 reaching younger people, reaching the nontraditional  
4 audiences, specifically minority audiences. We want to  
5 make sure national parks are relevant to the future,  
6 which is why even our staff here has been doing Facebook  
7 and all the social media to try to reach out to other  
8 groups.

9           Nationally they did the *Every Kid in a Park* program  
10 with graders -- so that fourth-graders and their  
11 families could get into a park for free in the  
12 centennial year. And other outreach areas, outreach  
13 opportunities. The *Healthy Parks, Healthy People*  
14 *Program*, getting people to come out and explore the out  
15 of doors for the health benefits, not just, say, the  
16 cultural or natural environmental benefits that they'd  
17 get.

18           MS. LYONS: It's really important because the less  
19 people pay attention to the parks, the more vulnerable  
20 they are because I am aware, you know, because of my  
21 relationship with Glacier Park, there is a big  
22 controversy now that they're trying to take over a  
23 portion of that for drilling, all kinds of exploration.  
24 It's really -- these have been put aside because they



1 are -- they're part of our humanity, and they are  
2 constantly under threat, but more so in these recent  
3 years, and I think if there's less -- if there's less of  
4 an identification of self to those parks and that to our  
5 national identity, they are really under attack and can  
6 be taken very easily.

7 So on that note, I support all your efforts.

8 MR. DELANEY: Thanks, Sheila.

9 MR. PRICE: Just a couple of other items I just  
10 wanted to highlight.

11 HERRING RIVER WETLAND RESTORATION

12 MR. PRICE: So the Herring River wetland  
13 restoration project is continuing. We're having regular  
14 meetings with the Friends and the technical committee on  
15 a lot of the background on that. And then we continue  
16 to have meetings with the Town of Wellfleet and the Town  
17 of Truro on the MOU 3 piece of that. We're hoping that  
18 the equivalent of the environmental assessment will be  
19 wrapped up by the spring. You might have been reading  
20 -- there's been a number of articles in the newspaper  
21 about the future of the roads and whether to go in this  
22 direction or that direction. It's a very, very  
23 complicated process. It's still not -- it's not one and  
24 done. Even after we have this plan, say, approved both

1 by the county and by the committee, the Park Service,  
2 and the towns, it's going to take a long time to  
3 actually proceed with the implementation of it.

4 HIGHLANDS CENTER UPDATE

5 MR. PRICE: The Highlands Center, I just wanted to  
6 mention we confirmed -- I'm sorry, Judy?

7 MS. STEPHENSON: I just wondered if you were going  
8 to do a Nauset Spit update because that was before  
9 those.

10 MR. PRICE: Well, it's just that that's one of  
11 these items that stays on the list, but I don't have any  
12 -- I don't have any new information for you.

13 MS. STEPHENSON: Okay.

14 MR. PRICE: Okay. It's still continuing -- it's  
15 fair to say it's still a dispute between the Town of --

16 MS. STEPHENSON: Eastham and Orleans.

17 MR. PRICE: Eastham, Orleans, and the National Park  
18 Service.

19 MS. GREEN: George, I have a question about the  
20 Highland -- about the Herring River project.

21 MR. PRICE: Yes.

22 MS. GREEN: So you said that once the plan is  
23 approved by the Commission. You mean the Cape Cod  
24 Commission?

1 MR. PRICE: Yes.

2 MS. GREEN: So just every step of the way is going  
3 through the Cape Cod Commission? Is it DRI?

4 MR. PRICE: Help me with the acronym that needed to  
5 happen for a county planning approval. So it's --

6 MS. LYONS: District of Critical --

7 MR. DELANEY: DRI?

8 MS. GREEN: DRI?

9 MR. PRICE: No. No, it was -- the commissioners  
10 came up with the Wellfleet Council on Aging. We had a  
11 joint meeting because we were going through the EIS  
12 process, and we were going through -- is it the MEPA  
13 process?

14 MR. DELANEY: MEPA, Massachusetts Environmental  
15 Protection.

16 MS. LYONS: Yes.

17 MR. PRICE: Would that have been --

18 MS. LYONS: And a DCPC. That's the District of  
19 Critical Planning Concern.

20 MR. PRICE: No, this was --

21 MR. COOK: Development of Regional Impact?

22 MR. PRICE: No. Sorry. That it required -- so the  
23 county actually had to have -- so we have parallel  
24 processes going on.

1 MS. LYONS: Right.

2 AUDIENCE MEMBER: I am not going to help you,  
3 George.

4 (Laughter.)

5 MR. PRICE: So it required both -- so the state  
6 sign-off comes through the commission. There was a  
7 commission meeting. We were able to do a parallel  
8 process.

9 So, Lilli, to answer your question, it's not that  
10 it goes, quote, through the commission, but there was  
11 both the state and the federal process for the planning  
12 effort here. And the name escapes me. It's not a  
13 district. It was just the planning process.

14 MS. GREEN: So the Cape Cod Commission will have to  
15 --

16 MS. LYONS: It's the MEPA process.

17 MR. PRICE: I believe it's the MEPA process.

18 MS. LYONS: Yeah, I think it is the MEPA process.

19 MR. DELANEY: The state does a review, and the  
20 Secretary of Environmental Affairs eventually will issue  
21 a MEPA certificate.

22 MR. PRICE: Yes.

23 MS. LYONS: Right, so it has to go through all of  
24 those review boards.

1           MR. DELANEY: But that is typically best done and  
2 paralleled with any local process, which is when it's  
3 happening through the Cape Cod Commission.

4           MR. PRICE: Right.

5           MR. DELANEY: And they do it at the same  
6 (inaudible), and they both end up making a judgment,  
7 hopefully the same one at the end.

8           MR. PRICE: Right.

9           MS. LYONS: Right.

10          MR. PRICE: So at the end of this, there'll be in  
11 essence the sign-off from both the feds and the state to  
12 the county commission. So that's -- I think it was just  
13 MEPA. I think that's what it was.

14          MS. LYONS: Yeah, I think so.

15          AUDIENCE MEMBER: I just can't remember the name of  
16 it either (inaudible).

17          (Laughter.)

18          MS. LYONS: (Inaudible).

19          AUDIENCE MEMBER: I knew that.

20          MR. PRICE: So anyway -- so yes, there's still --  
21 even once that plan gets approved doesn't mean that  
22 there still aren't very serious and complex issues that  
23 have to be dealt with as we move along with this, I  
24 think was my point.

1           MR. DELANEY: And, George, just to elaborate a  
2           little bit more for people. Those processes basically  
3           gather data and verify all the issues. So it's a good  
4           information document but upon which subsequent permits  
5           can be issued. So it's really -- you're right. It's  
6           not the end of the process.

7           MR. PRICE: Right.

8           MR. DELANEY: But it's the end of the information  
9           and assessment process.

10          MR. PRICE: Right.

11          MR. DELANEY: So that everybody in the future with  
12          their local conservation commission, state DEP, any  
13          other agency that has to actually issue a permit for  
14          this will have the same common knowledge and evaluation  
15          process to work with. It's actually very helpful. It's  
16          sometimes long and laborious, but once you get there,  
17          then there's a common understanding of what the project  
18          and its potential impacts are to go forward rather than  
19          each agency replicating that discovery period.

20          MR. PRICE: Right, which is why we did it parallel.  
21          Not parallel, tandem to make sure we're all on the same  
22          page.

23          MR. DELANEY: Good.

24          MR. PRICE: So I believe we actually do have the

1 project for the demo at the Highlands Center locked in  
2 for the fall. I think the question just is how many  
3 buildings. Again, this is another project that the cost  
4 just escalates because of the issues. So what we had  
5 hoped was we were going to have a whole number of  
6 buildings go through demolition, and these are buildings  
7 at the North Truro Air Force facility and the Highlands  
8 Center that mostly the excessive asbestos that's in them  
9 makes them ineligible for adaptive reuse.

10 So we hope we're still going to get at least five  
11 of these buildings demolished, but we had hoped that we  
12 were going to be able to get a lot more.

13 MS. BURGESS: I think you were down to twelve,  
14 weren't you? Eleven or twelve?

15 MR. PRICE: We hoped there'd be as many as eleven  
16 or twelve, so we're still in that process of figuring  
17 out how much money we're actually going to get, how many  
18 buildings we'll be able to take down. But if we were  
19 able to get the five down, at least that would be the  
20 core campus, which would really make a big -- I think a  
21 big improvement up there at least from a cosmetic point  
22 of view because we're still working with Payomet, we're  
23 still working with Castle Hill, we're still working with  
24 our science program and other possible partners on

1       developing a campus up there, and until we get these  
2       eyesores out of the way, it's problematic. That's for  
3       sure.

4                   NPS POLICY ON THE USE OF UAS - DRONES

5               MR. PRICE: Last time -- slipping again, last time  
6       we reviewed, Rich, although I think you might have had  
7       to step out, about the drone policy.

8               MR. DELANEY: I missed that. I had to leave early,  
9       yes.

10              MR. PRICE: So just to recap very quickly, the use  
11     of drones in national parks had been severely curtailed  
12     a couple of years ago. The national parks had some  
13     pretty negative experiences right in a row with drones  
14     being taken out by individuals; that they were harassing  
15     wildlife, they were harassing visitors, and, in fact,  
16     they were interfering with some of the aerial  
17     firefighting planes out in the West. They had to  
18     actually ground those airplanes that were trying to dump  
19     fire retardant and everything else because somebody had  
20     a drone up there.

21              So the director of the Park Service put a Service-  
22     wide prohibition with very tight restrictions for  
23     research. So the research had to benefit the Park  
24     Service and the park, and there was a very elaborate



1 permit process to go through. And you might have read  
2 in the paper we actually did a project the week before  
3 last out here at Nauset Marsh with a drone. So  
4 basically we went through all the steps with the USGS  
5 scientists and our own scientists. It was a  
6 collaborative project with Dr. Sophia Fox and our  
7 program here. They worked with the office of USGS out  
8 of Woods Hole. So we had to get a number of people  
9 signing off on this, including our own regional  
10 director, including the aeronautics people, aviation  
11 officers in the Park, in the Region, and in Washington,  
12 and then a final decide by the associate director of the  
13 Park Service for operations before they could get a  
14 permit. So it was a pretty elaborate process. It  
15 really took a long time.

16 MS. STEPHENSON: What was their research in?

17 MR. PRICE: The research basically for this project  
18 right now is the first preliminary step of how effective  
19 drones could be used for shoreline change. So they  
20 basically were doing a grid over Nauset Marsh.

21 The people in D.C. were very excited about this  
22 because they have already given out permits in other  
23 parts of the country, but this project was using a drone  
24 that was kind of the latest and greatest. It was very

1       quiet. It wasn't really -- they said some of the drones  
2       are ex-military and sound like flying chainsaws.  
3       They're very noisy and disruptive. So everybody was  
4       pleased about this. We started to get some of the  
5       information from this, and we'll be continuing further  
6       permits with them in the future for sure. We were the  
7       first park in our entire region to push through a  
8       permit. I mean, that's how difficult it is.

9               There are people that are deciding to use drones on  
10       their own.

11              Mary-Jo, you had said that you saw one up at  
12       Herring Cove Beach. I actually saw that video. It was  
13       posted on the Facebook page, and someone identified  
14       themselves as the friend of a friend who actually did  
15       that. I said, "Please tell the friend of the friend  
16       that he'll get a citation and a fine if they're caught."

17              MS. AVELLAR: They were quite proud of it.

18              MR. PRICE: And then we have given out citations.  
19       I personally saw someone with a drone buzzing the gray  
20       seals off of Coast Guard Beach a couple of months ago.

21              MS. AVELLAR: We have an airport in Provincetown,  
22       so it's even more important that there aren't any drones  
23       out there. That's for sure.

24              MR. PRICE: Right. And Butch and I have spoken

1       because he gets approached and I get approached. And  
2       there are two projects that came to me that might have  
3       involved the airport, and Butch and I are very solid.  
4       If Butch isn't happy, I'm not happy and vice versa when  
5       it comes to the Provincetown Airport. Neither one of  
6       those other projects have come forward yet, so this is  
7       the only one that made the jump. So if you're wondering  
8       why it was in the paper or what the deal was, that's it.

9               I'm very concerned that others are going to say,  
10       "See, they're flying drones with (inaudible) out there,"  
11       but that's --

12              MS. STEPHENSON: There was one on Nauset Beach last  
13       summer.

14              MR. PRICE: -- not the case.

15              MS. STEPHENSON: At the public beach. At the  
16       public beach.

17              MR. PRICE: In Orleans?

18              MS. STEPHENSON: Yes, like 7 o'clock at night in  
19       July.

20              MR. PRICE: Then in that case that's the Town of  
21       Orleans managing that.

22              MS. STEPHENSON: I didn't know they were illegal.  
23       I don't know if Orleans has a rule that they're illegal.

24              MR. DELANEY: Larry might be able to respond to

1       that.

2           MR. SPAULDING: No, I was going to ask a question.

3           MR. DELANEY: Oh, okay. I don't know, but I do  
4       know that many towns have made inquiries to the Cape Cod  
5       Chamber of Commerce by chance and in my group looking  
6       for model bylaws. So the set -- the set regulation or  
7       the policy of the Park is actually one of the first  
8       around here that any agency has done, but --

9           MS. STEPHENSON: Maybe it wasn't illegal at that  
10      time when they were doing it.

11          MR. DELANEY: Well, maybe George could help us.  
12      The FAA is about to institute or has just in the last  
13      year a requirement that certain sizes and types of  
14      drones require a license or an operator to record his or  
15      her self in a registry of some sort. So the FAA is  
16      really taking a national look at this because it's a big  
17      deal for airline safety and aviation safety.

18          MR. PRICE: Right.

19          MR. DELANEY: Local areas are looking at it for  
20      just as a nuisance problem, and natural resource  
21      agencies are looking at it because of the disturbance on  
22      wildlife and so forth. And researchers, like my group,  
23      are looking at it because -- as an example, George has  
24      mentioned having the ability to fly and record Coast

1       Guard Beach a week before a storm and then go right out  
2       after the storm and have pre- and post-recordings from  
3       the same location of a drone would be an amazing bit of  
4       information for research.

5               MR. PRICE: I also was approached by a fire chief  
6       because they're looking at drones and emergency services  
7       for search and rescue. And they had a very specific  
8       example last year when they just wanted to be successful  
9       in a very short period of time as opposed to using  
10      manpower that would take a long period of time and be  
11      hit or miss and a family is concerned about their loved  
12      one and all that sort of thing.

13             MS. LYONS: That's so scary.

14             MR. PRICE: I know. I think there's still a long  
15      discussion of it. At this point the Park Service is  
16      still very tight and very restrictive that I, as the  
17      superintendent, have to justify that this is for the  
18      benefit of the Seashore in furtherance of our  
19      information.

20             MR. DELANEY: Just one more quick example, and then  
21      Larry's going to -- just on the ocean side with NOAA,  
22      National Oceanic Atmospheric, is wrestling with the same  
23      issue like the National Park is, but some of our  
24      colleagues have flown drones over the top of a whale

1           when it exhales and collects the (inaudible).

2           MS. LYONS: I just heard that.

3           MR. DELANEY: And the information that's contained  
4           in that is unbelievable, but yet the knee-jerk reaction  
5           from the rest of us is that's how -- that, actually, is  
6           not even knee-jerk. That's technically uptake or  
7           harassment of an endangered species. So again, the  
8           balancing, the research benefit versus the harassment of  
9           the species.

10          Larry, you were going to ask a question?

11          MR. SPAULDING: George, are you the issuing  
12          authority, or does it go somewhere else for a drone  
13          permit?

14          MR. PRICE: No, it has to be signed by the  
15          associate director in Washington of the Park Service.

16          MR. SPAULDING: Then just my other comment. I see  
17          a real future for drones with all the issues we've had  
18          with sharks and trying to monitor the beaches at some  
19          point where both the Seashore and the towns would be  
20          their own issuing authority and have their own drones  
21          properly managed because we've seen all the summer  
22          closings of beaches and we saw the issues where the  
23          sharks were very close to the swimmers. It would be  
24          good to be able to monitor that.

1           MR. PRICE: Actually, our white shark working group  
2           has been looking at that, and it was an outfit in  
3           California that was trying that. At this point the  
4           technology isn't there, Larry. The battery life of  
5           these things are not there. The clarity, the visuals is  
6           not as good as you would think. Even the spotter planes  
7           going out it's a hit or miss. And one of the issues  
8           with the white sharks was just a very real problem, and  
9           we're working with -- working on this all the time, is  
10          that there's a number of things we can put in place that  
11          might make people feel good, but it's not truly moving  
12          the public safety as far as you would think.

13          I'll give you an example. We just had the -- we  
14          were fortunate to have the person who's in charge of the  
15          shark spotter program from South Africa come up and meet  
16          with this working group. And Greg Skomal was there, and  
17          we had representatives from all the different towns.  
18          And they were talking about spotters that can sit high  
19          up and actually see the animals nearby. But they showed  
20          us the configuration of their beaches, and they're very  
21          much like -- you know, like a horseshoe beach. And you  
22          put the spotter on a high end on one end, and you have  
23          very little water, and it's a lot of good water clarity,  
24          so it's fairly easy to pick up the animals. We don't

1       have that kind of water clarity here. And you would  
2       think the spotter plane will do it, and you think the  
3       drone will do it, and it's really a false -- false  
4       assumption at this point. So we're continuing to work  
5       with what is, in fact, the best way. So we're working  
6       on this diligently all the time.

7               Just a very quick aside. The one thing we did  
8       borrow from them is when you go to one of our  
9       lifeguarded beaches, you notice the different color  
10      flags. Usually green means everything's fine. Red  
11      means the water's too bad or whatever. We have had a  
12      purple flag traditionally meaning marine life, which  
13      usually means --

14             MS. LYONS: Jellyfish?

15             MR. PRICE: -- jellyfish. Occasionally it's been  
16      if a shark has been spotted. Well, now that purple flag  
17      actually has the profile of a shark on it so that  
18      there's no misunderstanding, especially if someone is  
19      not familiar with the area, not familiar with the flag  
20      system or not speaking English. This is a very clear  
21      indication of what's out there. And I believe the other  
22      towns are going to adopt that as well, but we've already  
23      received ours.

24             MS. BURGESS: I happened to see it the other day



1       when I stopped in and Leslie was showing you. Are you  
2       going to have it permanently at the lifeguard stations  
3       just to make people aware that they're out there or only  
4       when you've substantiated that they're really there?

5               MR. PRICE: Yeah, pretty much when we believe that  
6       they are. The SOP right now is if there's a shark  
7       sighting or somebody has informed us that there's a  
8       shark in the vicinity, right now they have a very good  
9       communication system. So if there's a shark going north  
10      from Coast Guard Beach, then the other beaches key in  
11      and then the flags would go up. It's a question of  
12      whether you keep the shark sign up all the time or not.  
13      You probably would if you were in Chatham.

14             MS. LYONS: Right.

15             MS. AVELLAR: The other issue is real estate agents  
16      are starting to use drones. And I was in a meeting at  
17      my office the other day, and I told everybody, "If you  
18      have any listings in the Seashore, don't take the drone  
19      out. It's against the law." But it's more and more  
20      prevalent now because of these virtual tours and all  
21      these kind of stuff.

22             MS. LYONS: So one thing that isn't stated here is  
23      there is still a privacy. I mean, there is sort of  
24      invasion of everyone's privacy. So now you're taking

1       these -- the National Seashore is one place you feel  
2       like you can go around and -- you know, do they put  
3       cameras in here? I mean, there are cameras everywhere.

4             MS. AVELLAR: Well, there are cameras everywhere  
5       out there.

6             MS. LYONS: I know. I know. But there are cameras  
7       everywhere we go now, and there are very few places  
8       where you can just kind of walk and be by yourself or  
9       really feel disconnected. And I just have a problem  
10      with them.

11            MS. AVELLAR: Yeah, well, so, Sheila, you're going  
12      to support me when they want to put a cell tower out at  
13      Provincetown Airport and then everybody can use their  
14      phone at the beach.

15            MS. LYONS: Yeah.

16            MS. AVELLAR: And annoy everybody at the beach.

17            MS. LYONS: Right, right. I mean, there are  
18      sometimes that you have to be forced -- people do need  
19      to be forced to not be able to use their phone. But  
20      going back to the sharks, you know, they were just  
21      coming out with the studies of the sharks that had been  
22      tagged.

23            MR. PRICE: Yes.

24            MS. LYONS: And it was amazing that the shark that

1 was rescued by all the beachgoers --

2 MS. AVELLAR: (Inaudible).

3 MS. LYONS: -- can actually -- did live. I mean,  
4 he wasn't --

5 MS. BURGESS: That's in your harbor.

6 MS. LYONS: It was my harbor. Well, we're just  
7 good people here. You know, we love all species.

8 But I thought that that was pretty interesting  
9 because there was more of them here in the off-season as  
10 though the activity or sonar of people and activity kind  
11 of kept them. And they were looking for the seals. So  
12 there's a big outcry about "The seals are eating our  
13 fish. We should go outside shooting and clubbing the  
14 seals." Well, it's kind of a natural -- nature is  
15 taking over here. So there is a balance. There's a  
16 welcomeness to these sharks because they are taking care  
17 of a nuisance or an overpopulation. I just feel that if  
18 you can tag more -- I mean, there's more information it  
19 seems to me that comes out, real live --

20 MR. PRICE: Right, I think the thing --

21 MS. LYONS: -- sharks that have been traveling.

22 MR. PRICE: We learned from this doctor from South  
23 Africa. I can't remember her name right now. So South  
24 Africa has dealt with these shark attacks for years, and

1       they're very similar to white sharks. And they  
2       basically have one to two fatalities a year. When it  
3       reached four, that was more than the community could  
4       bear, which is where they really got the support for the  
5       shark watching program. But even with the shark  
6       watching program, there are still fatalities, especially  
7       with people that are not abiding by the recommendations.  
8       There was somebody who the red flag was up. They were  
9       told by somebody, "Don't go out." He still went out and  
10      lost a leg, but because there were so many other people  
11      around, he didn't die. But I'm not sure our community  
12      is interested in one to two fatalities a year.

13               MS. LYONS: No.

14               MR. PRICE: So everybody that's involved with  
15      public safety on our beaches for all towns is very  
16      concerned about how we do this. South Africa is also  
17      very interested in the continuation of the species as  
18      well, so they also are studying it the same way  
19      (inaudible) studying it with -- whether it's tracking  
20      devices or different things to understand what's  
21      happening with this animal.

22               Going back to the drones, though, my position is  
23      twofold. One, we, yes, need to protect the wildlife  
24      from being harassed, but you're absolutely right. We

1 want to protect the visitors from being harassed. We're  
2 very concerned about privacy in that respect.

3 Mr. Chair.

4 MR. DELANEY: Is there any written policy yet on  
5 these drones at a national level?

6 MR. PRICE: Yes.

7 MR. DELANEY: Is that available?

8 MR. PRICE: Yes.

9 MS. AVELLAR: No drone zones.

10 MR. PRICE: That's about it.

11 MR. DELANEY: Any questions on drones?

12 (No response.)

13 MR. DELANEY: I guess that's it on your report.

14 Thank you, Superintendent.

15 Any other questions for the superintendent on other  
16 topics that he didn't cover?

17 (No response.)

18 MR. DELANEY: Okay, then hearing none, the next  
19 item would be Old Business.

20 **OLD BUSINESS**

21 MR. DELANEY: Anyone like to go back to an issue  
22 from previous meetings?

23 (No response.)

24 MR. DELANEY: We usually list *Live Lightly*

1       *Campaign.* Mark Robinson's not here tonight. He's on a  
2       well-earned vacation in the British Virgin Islands.

3               MS. LYONS: Oh, nice.

4               MS. AVELLAR: Oh, nice.

5               MS. LYONS: Is it the British Virgin Islands?

6               MR. DELANEY: Yeah. But we'll hear an update at  
7       the next meeting, which is I guess our next item of  
8       business. Oh, no, *New Business*.

9                               **NEW BUSINESS**

10              MR. DELANEY: Any other new business?

11              (No response.)

12                              **DATE AND AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING**

13              MR. DELANEY: Okay, then setting the date for our  
14       next meeting. It's usually two months. Sometime in  
15       May?

16              MR. PRICE: Yes, I'm recommending the May 16 or the  
17       23rd.

18              MR. DELANEY: Does anyone have a significant  
19       problem with either one of those days?

20              THE COURT REPORTER: I do.

21              MS. STEPHENSON: I do. Both days.

22              MR. DELANEY: Both days?

23              MR. SPAULDING: Mine's for the 23rd.

24              THE COURT REPORTER: Mine's for the 16th.

1 MR. DELANEY: 16th. Well, you are kind of key.

2 (To Mr. Spaulding) You have the 23rd?

3 MR. SPAULDING: Can't make it.

4 MR. DELANEY: (To Ms. Stephenson) And you have  
5 both.

6 We're on a pretty solid Monday kind of schedule.

7 George, what's another day in May?

8 MR. PRICE: Well, the other thing is, frankly, we  
9 can push it to June.

10 MR. DELANEY: As far as I can tell, there's no  
11 issue that requires timely comments or reaction from us.

12 MR. PRICE: Correct.

13 MR. DELANEY: If we went to the beginning of June,  
14 does that help you, Judith?

15 MR. PRICE: June 6 or June 13? Oh, wait a minute.

16 (Pause.)

17 MS. AVELLAR: June 6?

18 MR. PRICE: June 6.

19 MR. DELANEY: June 6, I'm just looking. Let me  
20 think for a second.

21 MS. STEPHENSON: I can't do it, but...

22 MR. DELANEY: You've already used up your two.

23 MS. STEPHENSON: Pardon?

24 MR. DELANEY: You've already used your two --

1 MS. STEPHENSON: I know. I'm sorry.

2 MR. DELANEY: -- two mulligans.

3 (To the court reporter) All right, so June 6 okay?

4 THE COURT REPORTER: June 6 is fine.

5 MR. DELANEY: All right, hearing June 6, going  
6 once. Going twice. Gone.

7 Sorry, Judy, we had to -- we don't want to push it  
8 too late because that season is pretty busy.

9 MS. LYONS: Better luck next year.

10 MS. STEPHENSON: If we met in the summer --

11 MR. DELANEY: Speaking of dates, I wanted to  
12 comment earlier. Of course, this Thursday is a special  
13 day, and I'm very happy to see all the green. Green  
14 turtlenecks, green sweaters, green ties. Thank you for  
15 -- happy St. Patrick's Day to everybody.

16 MS. STEPHENSON: Delaney is the first. And what  
17 was your name?

18 MS. LYONS: Keenan.

19 MS. STEPHENSON: Keating?

20 MS. LYONS: Keenan.

21 MS. AVELLAR: McGrath was my mother. My mother was  
22 McGrath, McCarthys.

23 MS. STEPHENSON: Our side of the table.

24 MR. DELANEY: You did very well. I'm proud of you.



1 MR. PRICE: Public comment?

2 MR. DELANEY: Public comment period.

3 **PUBLIC COMMENT**

4 MR. DELANEY: I will open the floor to the public  
5 for comments on any topic or new issues.

6 Yes, sir, please just identify yourself, and we'll  
7 go from there.

8 AUDIENCE MEMBER (GEORGE WIENARD) (phonetic):  
9 Certainly. My name is George Wienard (phonetic). I'm a  
10 private citizen today, but I spent my life working for  
11 FEMA, an environmental specialist. And so a couple of  
12 comments I have.

13 On the drone overflights, we're evaluating those as  
14 well to try to measure the actual erosion of the beach  
15 area. Of course, FEMA pays based upon erosion of the  
16 beach. And with LIDAR I think the precision is plus or  
17 minus two inches, and we're very interested in that,  
18 although we haven't gotten very far. So if you have any  
19 thoughts and advice on it, that's my comment, number  
20 one.

21 MR. DELANEY: I would like to suggest that both my  
22 coastal geologist -- his name is Mark Borrelli -- and  
23 the Cape Cod National Seashore's geologist, Mark Adams,  
24 would both be very interested in connecting with you in

1       regard to the use of LIDAR.

2               MR. PRICE: We actually -- we have intermittent  
3 LIDAR flight to (inaudible).

4               MR. DELANEY: The Center for Coastal Studies, we've  
5 done it a couple of times now for our projects in  
6 Nantucket.

7               MR. PRICE: We have had LIDAR flights, and it  
8 happens like every four or five years, but I can't  
9 remember which agency would work on the LIDAR.

10              AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. WIENARD) (phonetic): We'd be  
11 very interested. We're considering developing or having  
12 someone develop for us LIDAR equipment on a drone, which  
13 would make it very inexpensive to actually measure the  
14 erosion rate. So that would be --

15              MR. PRICE: Well, before you leave I'll give you  
16 Mark Adams' contact information, and he works with the  
17 Center for Coastal --

18              MR. DELANEY: And I'll do the same.

19              AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. WIENARD) (phonetic): And  
20 second -- I have a second comment. The second comment  
21 is connected with the long-eared bat, and I wonder if  
22 you know Susi von Oettingen.

23              MR. PRICE: Very well.

24              MR. COOK: Yes.

1 AUDIENCE MEMBER (MR. WIENARD) (phonetic): I rest  
2 my case.

3 MR. DELANEY: Thank you.

4           For everybody else, Susi is with the U.S. Fish and  
5       Wildlife Service, and she works with us on endangered  
6       species. And we spend most of our time with her working  
7       on the shorebird management plan and the operations.  
8       She also works with the state, with the towns of Orleans  
9       and Chatham on their shorebird management plan, but  
10      again, it's not just all about birds. But also she's  
11      involved with bats and other endangered species.

12           We just had a meeting with her like two weeks ago  
13           on the bat program actually.

14 MR. DELANEY: Any other comments from the public?

15 (No response.)

16 **ADJOURNMENT**

17 MR. DELANEY: Okay, hearing none, I will entertain  
18 a motion to adjourn.

19 MS. BURGESS: So moved.

20 MR. DELANEY: Second?

21 MS. STEPHENSON: Second.

22 MR. DELANEY: All those in favor, signify by saying  
23 aye.

24 BOARD MEMBERS: Aye.

1 MS. AVELLAR: I always tell you you don't need a  
2 second on a motion to adjourn.

3 MR. DELANEY: Okay, take care.

4 (Whereupon, at 2:42 p.m. the proceedings were  
5 adjourned.)

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REPORTER'S CERTIFICATE

PLYMOUTH, SS

I, Linda M. Corcoran, a Court Reporter and Notary Public in and for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, do hereby certify that:

The foregoing 76 pages comprises a true, complete, and accurate transcript to the best of my knowledge, skill, and ability of the proceedings of the meeting of the Cape Cod National Seashore Advisory Commission at Marconi Station Area, Park Headquarters, South Wellfleet, Massachusetts, on Monday, March 14, 2016, commencing at 1:11 p.m.

I further certify that I am a disinterested person to these proceedings.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and notarial seal this 12th day of May, 2016.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Linda M. Corcoran - Court Reporter  
My commission expires:  
August 28, 2020